THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE N.V. RAMANA

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W.P. No. 16547 of 2007

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Oral order:

Assailing the action of the respondent in not calling the petitioners for interview for selection and appointment to the posts of Contract Junior Linemen, they filed the present writ petition.

In pursuance of the notification dated 08.06.2006, issued by the respondent for filling up the posts of Junior Linemen on contract basis for a period of one year, the petitioners submitted their applications. It is the grievance of the petitioners that though they are fully qualified and eligible to be appointed as Contract Junior Linemen, the respondent has not called them for interview, which is illegal and arbitrary.

Despite granting sufficient time, no counter affidavit is filed by the respondent. The learned Standing Counsel for the respondent-APCPDCL submitted that out of the vacancies notified, some vacancies still remained unfilled.

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Standing Counsel for the respondent-APCPDCL.

The material filed by the petitioners, including the experience certificates issued by the officers of the respondent-APCPDCL, *prima facie*, indicate that the petitioners have been working with them since some time, making them eligible for consideration of their cases for appointment as Junior Linemen. Inasmuch as the contract of appointment is only for a period of one year, and having regard to the statement made by the learned Standing Counsel for the respondent-APCPDCL that some vacancies of Junior Linemen, still remain

unfilled, I am of the considered opinion that instead of keeping the writ petition pending, the interests of justice would be met, if the writ petition is disposed of with the following directions:

The respondent is directed to consider the cases of the petitioners for appointment as Contract Junior Linemen in the unfilled vacancies, if they are otherwise qualified, in accordance with law, and pass appropriate orders, within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

Accordingly, the writ petition is disposed of. No costs.

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N.V. RAMANA, J.

Dated: 14th September, 2007.
KSR